

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: **Masajirou INOUE *et al.***

Serial No.: **To Be Assigned**

Filed: **Herewith**

For: **METHOD FOR FABRICATING A SEAL-  
INTEGRATED SEPARATOR**

Attorney Docket No.: **SIW-024**

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

1c879 U.S. PTO  
10/000460  
11/30/01

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Commissioner for Patents  
**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, VA 22202

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97, and § 1.98, Applicants herewith make of record the following publications which may be material during the prosecution of the above-referenced patent application:

Japanese Publication No. Hei 11-129396, published May 18, 1999,  
including an English abstract;

Japanese Publication No. Hei 11-179755, published July 6, 1999,  
including an English abstract;

Japanese Publication No. Hei 11-309746, published November 9, 1999,  
including an English abstract;

Japanese Publication No. Hei 11-309747, published November 9, 1999,  
including an English abstract;

Japanese Publication No. 2000-033630, published February 2, 2000,  
including an English abstract; and  
Japanese Publication No. 2000-133288, published May 12, 2000,  
including an English abstract.

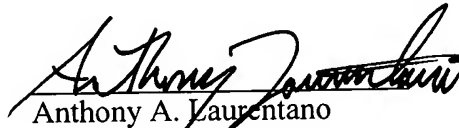
This statement is *not* to be interpreted as a representation that the cited publications are material, that Applicants have conducted an exhaustive search, or that no other relevant information exists. Nor shall the citation of any publication herein be construed *per se* as a representation that such publications are prior art. Moreover, the Applicants understand the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited publications.

Copies of the foregoing Japanese publications, including English abstracts, and a reproduction of PTO Form 1449 accompany this statement.

No costs are believed due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if there are any associated costs, please charge them to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080.

Respectfully submitted,

LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

  
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Date: November 30, 2001

APPLICANT FACSIMILE OF FORM PTO-1449  
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ATTY DOCKET NO.

**SIW-024**

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**LIST OF PUBLICATIONS CITED BY APPLICANT**  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicants:

**Masajirou INOUE et al.**

FILING DATE

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10879 U.S. PTO  
10/000460  
11/30/01

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |  | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|--|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
|                     |  |                 |      |      |       |          |                               |
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

|  |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE  | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|--|----|-----------------|-------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|  |    |                 |       |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
|  | A1 | Hei 11-129396   | 05/99 | Japan   |       |          | Abst        |    |
|  | A2 | Hei 11-179755   | 07/99 | Japan   |       |          | Abst        |    |
|  | A3 | Hei 11-309746   | 11/99 | Japan   |       |          | Abst        |    |
|  | A4 | Hei 11-309747   | 11/99 | Japan   |       |          | Abst        |    |
|  | A5 | 2000-033630     | 02/00 | Japan   |       |          | Abst        |    |
|  | A6 | 2000-133288     | 05/00 | Japan   |       |          | Abst        |    |
|  |    |                 |       |         |       |          |             |    |
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**OTHERS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

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| Examiner  |  | Date Considered |  |
| <p><b>*EXAMINER:</b> Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p> |  |                 |  |